



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY  
EDGAR SNOWDEN.

TUESDAY EVENING, AUGUST 7, 1877.

It now appears that Governor Carroll has not been "officially informed" that the blockade of boats along the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. We wonder if he waited to be "officially informed" that the strikers threatened the destruction of Camden depot before he ordered troops to its defense. Whether "officially informed" or not, he has known, for everybody else has, that for the last two months a band of ruffians at Sir John's Run have jammed their boats so that it is impossible for other boats to pass; that boats that have attempted to effect a passage have been shot into; that one boat that made the attempt to run the blockade was burned, and that, in fact, navigation has been effectually closed by them to all but one or two boats, which they allowed to pass after inspecting their papers. He has known that this blockade has been enforced for two months, whether informed of it "officially or not," but has just determined to order the Sheriff of the county to raise it. Official information is a proper thing to have sometimes, but if he had waited for it when the strikers rose in Baltimore the damage in that city would have exceeded that in Pittsburgh. But what can be said of Mr. Gorman, the President of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, who allowed the condition of affairs we have mentioned to exist on the line of which he has control without sending "official information" of it to Governor Carroll? His course of action is only explicable upon the ground that he has other interests more important than those of the company of which he is President.

The conservative party of the State of Virginia will meet in convention at Richmond tomorrow to nominate State officers. The delegates have ample material, both in lists of those prominently spoken of in connection with the several offices for which nominations are to be made, and in the numerous "dark horses," from which to make excellent selections, and can hardly fail to give the voters candidates for whom they will be glad to cast their ballots. The idea of repudiating the State's indebtedness was lodged into the campaign to the great detriment of every interest in the State, and without the remotest idea of producing any effect after the election, for no Governor of Virginia, elected by her people, no matter how high he might be, would, or could, have the temerity to do aught that would in the slightest degree tend to detract from the integrity and put a stain upon the fair name of the old Commonwealth. Let the nominee then be whomever the Convention may select, every man within the borders of the State can vote for him with the assurance that, so far as depends upon the Governor, every material interest of the State will be guarded and protected as though it were his own, and that her honor will be as dear to him as his own. The State is poor, but, like the mother of the Greek, she can point to her sons as her jewels.

Among the innumerable evils of the civil war in this country one of the most humiliating is the depreciated estimation in which citizens of the United States are now held abroad. The war afforded opportunities for men without principle to accumulate fortunes, to spend which many of them went to Europe, where their true character was speedily discovered. While most of the honest and reputable citizens of the country suffered by the war and were, by it, debared the privilege of traveling abroad, the shoddyites swarmed in every capital of Europe, so that naturally they were looked upon as true representatives of the land from which they came, and which they made ridiculous by their vain and vulgar boasting, and notwithstanding the plethoric condition of their purses, and the ostentatious prodigality with which they squandered their ill-gotten gains, their rogues were so ingrained that it developed itself at every opportunity, and became so notorious that America is now looked upon in foreign countries as a nation of thieves, and so general is this belief that signs on the shops in the streets of London announce that no orders will be received from Americans without a deposit.

Times, like everything else, always have been in a transition stage, but the rapidity of their tergiversations in this country, lately, is really remarkable. Who would have thought a short time ago, that the State of Massachusetts, which went into "convulsions" whenever a Virginia planter made his overcoat whip a thievish slave, would become so impressed with the beneficial effects of the lash that it would resort to flogging as a means of disciplining those children of its own white citizens who are in its reform schools, and yet such is the fact.

The conservatives of King George county have nominated Charles Ashton, esq., for the House of Delegates.

The Baltimore American, in alluding to the workmen's meeting held in that city last night, says:

Whilst admitting the right of all citizens to meet together and express their opinion on public topics, some of the utterances which certain speakers indulged in last night are to be deplored, as tending to lessen the sympathy naturally felt for all men who make an honest effort to improve their condition. The vast extent of ground which the platform covered will also militate against it, but probably when the promoters of the meetings come down to action much that is superfluous may be lopped off. In the meantime we can only watch the movements which may be made with interest, and wait for the action of the convention to see what class of individuals the workmen of this city are willing should be allowed to represent them.

### The State Conservative Convention.

The convention of the conservative party of the State of Virginia will assemble in the Richmond Theatre, in the city of Richmond, at noon tomorrow. The delegates and friends of the various candidates for Governor have already arrived in large numbers, and last night these and the resident delegates were caucusing at the several headquarters established by the agents of the candidates. Excitement runs high. None of the candidates are there, and probably none will be present, but all of them will be at points allowing of easy and rapid communication with their representatives in Richmond. It is believed that there will be a thousand delegates attending the convention, with a thousand alternates and friends of the aspirants besides.

The State of yesterday evening says:—"The workers for the various aspirants are sanguine. Daniel men say that their choice will lead on the first ballot, while the Mahone men make the same prediction with respect to the other champion. Everybody here is prophesying, guessing, betting or offering to bet on the result. Not many of the delegates have arrived as yet, but by to night they will roll in at a rapid rate."

The Dispatch of to day says:—"Messrs. E. S. Hutter, Hon. Thomas Whitehead, and E. P. Goggin, of Lynchburg, and Judge Houston, of Botetourt, and a number of prominent friends and supporters of Major Daniel, have arrived. They are confident of victory, and assert that their candidate will be in the lead from the beginning. Col. John E. Pann, of Patrick, who is at the head of their organization, will arrive to day. The Colonel has had much experience in legislative caucuses and is a good, cool leader."

The Daniel headquarters at the Virginia Opera House were open all day yesterday, and were in charge of a committee of young gentlemen, ardent supporters of "the little man with the arch." They have decorated the interior of the building very handsomely with signal service flags and national colors.

There was a gentleman at these headquarters yesterday evening who offered to bet any sum from \$500 to \$1,000 that when the vote came down to Mahone and Daniel, Daniel would beat Mahone. He found no taker. One Mahone man said that he would probably be able to cover the bet to day.

The Daniel men are certainly enthusiastic. They declare that they are well and solidly organized, and will show that there is more brag than anything else in the Mahone party.

All the Daniel delegates and alternates will wear red badges.

Last night a goodly number of the friends of Major John W. Daniel met at the Opera House for consultation. Mr. N. M. Lee, of Richmond, presided. The object of the meeting, as stated, was merely to make arrangements for the caucuses to be held this afternoon and to night, and to impress upon the delegates already ready for the necessity of remaining together and voting for Daniel "first last, and all the time." Among the speakers were Messrs. Whitehead and Goggin, of Lynchburg; Judge Houston, of Botetourt; Colonel Walker, of Westmoreland; Major Ficklin, of Buckingham, and Colonel D. J. Godwin, of Portsmouth.

This afternoon at half-past 2 o'clock the Daniel delegates and alternates already in the city will meet and proceed to the cars to welcome the delegations from Franklin county and Lynchburg.

To-night at 8.30 o'clock there will be a caucus at the Opera House.

Mayor Cameron, of Petersburg, Colonel Fulkerson, of Washington county, and other leading friends of Mahone, are at the Exchange. They are credited with having perfected a very fine organization. No doubt of it.

Their headquarters at Monticelli Hall were opened yesterday. J. D. Snelling is commissary general of the force, and will see that the delegates favorable to "Little Billy" do not suffer from hunger or thirst.

Committeemen are to meet the incoming delegates and see them comfortably quartered, and doubtful parties are to be interviewed and argued with.

Mahone men will wear corn colored badges. It is not likely that they will fail in anything that can be accomplished by systematic work and thoroughness of organization. They talk very confidently.

There was a meeting of the friends of General Mahone at Monticelli Hall last night. General R. Lindsay Walker presided, and Messrs. J. T. Keese and John Hall acted as secretaries. Such delegates as were in the city were enrolled.

General Snifferro is here, staying at the residence of Judge Wellford. It was at first his determination not to come to the city; but to be at his home in Gloucester, beyond telegraphic or quick mail communication, would be as far out of the reach of the Convention as if he were in another State, and yielding to advice he came up.

His friends believe that he will prove to be the available man. A caucus of the delegates will take place to night at 2 o'clock on Seventh street at 8.30 o'clock.

The Fitz Lee men had a conference at the Park Hotel last night. General Payne, who will probably make the nominating speech, and other gentlemen of distinction and influence, were present.

They will have another consultation to day at 12 M., and again to night at 8.30 at Wolf's Hall, adjoining the City Hall building, on Broad street near Ninth. The Fitz Lee men feel confident that the dashing soldier and noble gentleman whom they follow will come out of this affair victorious.

The Holiday men were the first in the field here. They are steadily at work, under good leaders, and with assurances that their efforts will not be in vain. Their headquarters are at 112 Exchange, and their consultation-room at Harmony Hall, Broad between Sixth and Seventh streets, where there will be a caucus at 8.30 to night.

From Washington.

[SPECIAL DISPATCHES TO THE GAZETTE.] WASHINGTON, August 7.—The Cabinet held its regular session to-day, and was mainly occupied with routine business from the several departments. There were some Presidential appointments of postmasters agreed upon, but none in this section of the country.

VIRGINIA NOTES.

The Southern Officeholders Republican Association will, it is understood, quietly give up the ghost, under the President's order directing the clerks to abandon politics and attend to their official duties.

### The Strikers' Riots.

But one coal mine, the Potomac, at Barton, was worked on Saturday. It is said there was an understanding with the miners who went to work that if 55 cents should become the ruling rate of the region they should have that price, but if not, they should be paid the old rate, viz: 50 cents. Work, as usual, was offered by the companies at 50 cents, but not accepted, and the suspension of work in the region was general, with the exception noted. The companies declare their unwillingness to give the advances. Some state that they will close up for the season before they will pay it. Altogether the outlook for the region is anything but cheerful.

The Cumberland papers state that on Saturday last the George's Creek Coal and Iron Company went to work at fifty cents. The management say this is to load some vessels which are laying on demurrage at a heavy expense, and that when they are loaded and despatched work will be stopped unless fifty cents is accepted. On the same day the Hampshire and Baltimore Company went to work at fifty cents.

Mr. Sinclair, General Manager of the New Central Company, gave orders on Friday to take out the tools and close the mines if the men would not go to work at fifty cents. By request the execution of the order was delayed until to day, and it is thought likely the men will go to work.

The managers of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Company show no sign of returning to work, and threatening letters continue to be addressed to the mechanics who are said to be in favor of going to work in the car shops. Everything was quiet last night.

Trains on the Lehigh and Susquehanna were started yesterday. The first one from Seranton was stopped below Pleasant Valley by stones wedged between the track.

The strike among the workmen at the National Tube Works, McKeesport, has ended by the men agreeing to resume work without an advance in wages.

Yesterday morning fifty Italian laborers were taken to the coal docks at Port Johnson, New Jersey, in a coal barge of the Lehigh and Wilkes-Barre Company to take the place of the men who are striking for an advance to the old rate of wages paid last Spring. After the Italians arrived the demonstrations by the rioters became violent, and help was telegraphed for to Jersey City.

Many called upon the court for protection, and Judge McKenna issued a notice that the property is under the control of the court, and that any interference with it is a violation of law which will be speedily punished. A special car was despatched from Jersey City for Port Johnson yesterday afternoon, with Mr. Tillinghast, the receiver, Sheriff Lowery, of Hudson county, and twenty policemen. One hundred special officers are on duty at Port Johnson. The Mayor of Bayonne closed all the drinking places, and the Fourth Regiment was put under arms.

There were two strikers' (workingman's) meetings in Baltimore, last night. The one held at Maryland Institute was numerously attended. The tone of many of the addresses, was of a decidedly radical character. The theory that a government ought to operate all public industries and furnish employment for its poor was dwelt upon, while the recent destruction of property in Pittsburgh and other large cities met with approval, as being the natural result of poverty, reduced wages and want of employment. No organization of the proposed new party having yet been effected, the meeting partook more of the nature of one of sympathy than as coming to any determination on the future course to be pursued. It was intimated that as soon as plans could be matured, a ticket would be placed in the field, and candidates for the various offices in the gift of the people would be put in nomination.

A smaller meeting was held at Reebach Hall. The resolutions unanimously adopted at it embraced a variety of subjects, ranging from city improvements, arbitration, an eight hours law, convict and contract labor up to the contraction of the currency, the suppression of bank issues and the payment of all Government bonds at their maturity. The various war veterans were instructed to organize and to send delegates to a city convention, to be held for the purpose of nominating candidates for municipal offices. The speeches which were made partook of the same character as those which were delivered at the Institute meeting.

FLOGGING AS AN ELEMENT OF DISCIPLINE. The sweat box as an element of the discipline of the Westboro (Mass.) Reform School has been eliminated, as the result of the legislative investigations, but flogging, duly guarded, is officially approved. The trustees, in accordance with the law providing that corporal punishment shall only be permitted under regulations prescribed by them, have just submitted their rules of government, which are approved by the Governor and council. The boys in the "trust" department, those promoted for good behavior, are not to be flogged, but otherwise these punishments apply to all:—First, marking down in the department books; second, deprivation of play; third, half rations in the dining hall; fourth, confinement in the dormitory; fifth, confinement in the lodge. As the sixth and final resort, flogging is to be administered in the presence of the superintendent or assistant superintendent, and on the same day the offender is committed, and "with a leather strap of single thickness, one and one fourth inches wide and twenty inches long, on the hand or back part of the thighs." All punishments are to be recorded.

AERIAL TORPEDOES.—Humanitarians, who look for the suppression of war to the development of the deadliest engines of warfare, will read with satisfaction a suggestion recently thrown out for a further employment of the torpedo. A torpedo balloon, the device is to be styled, and the name is a sufficient indication of its nature. A balloon is to be constructed capable of rising with a torpedo beneath it, and starting to windward of a camp or fortified city, or whatever it is desired to destroy, is to be burst or detached by means which it would be easy to contrive, and thus to allow its cargo of death and destruction to fall into the midst of the enemy. The detachment of the torpedo, it is suggested, might be effected with great ease and certainly by means of a thin electric wire, and the proper moment for dropping the charge, in order to explode it on any given point, would be only a matter of instrumental observation and a little practice. The idea seems to be fearfully practicable, and apart from the consideration that the very perfection of modern warfare seems really to present the most hopeful prospect of universal peace, it might be deemed a too trifling an idea to be entertained by civilized combatants. By means of such an engine a fortified place might be attacked from a point from which no guns could be brought into action, and without the smallest opportunity of retaliation. The carnage and devastation by the explosion of a torpedo in a fortress or camp would be infinitely greater than a bombardment could produce; and while to the besiegers even a failure need involve no harm or even danger, the balloon might be floated out of the range of shot, and to the besieged would be fraught with ruin against which no conceivable defense would avail anything. The effect of a torpedo dropped into a garrisoned fortress or a fortified camp would be something really dreadful to contemplate. —London Globe.

Lady Sayers won the first race at Saratoga, to day.

### The Eastern War.

An Ekzroum telegram, dated August 6th, announces that Russian reinforcements, numbering 15,000 men, have crossed the frontier and occupied a strong position to the north of Ani, thus threatening the right flank and centre of the Ottoman army. The Russian centre is divided into three columns at Ani, Golevan and Kurukdara, respectively. It numbers in all 68 battalions of infantry, 16 batteries, and 8,500 cavalry. Ismail Pasha is about one hour's march west of Bajazid. General Terzoukassoff is on the frontier at Karadoulak, with 18 battalions of infantry, 7 batteries, and 7 regiments of cavalry.

An official dispatch, published in St. Petersburg, admits the loss of upwards of 5,000 men at Plevna, including one colonel killed and a major general and two colonels wounded. The dispatch also admits that General Gourko has been obliged to retreat to the Balkan passes before the advance of Salimian Pasha, who had the Political Correspondence's Zira special says:—"After a seven hours' engagement on August 4, the Dalmatian insurgents, under Gen. Despatovich, were defeated with great loss. Despatovich, with 300 followers, was compelled to cross the frontier into Austrian territory, where he was interned and disarmed."

Namuk Pasha will preside at the court martial on Abdul Kerim and Redif Pashas, Brigadier Generals Sarik and Ahmed, Col. Hamdi, Marshals Eshref and Mahmud, and the former commanders of Soutari and Ardashan. Reouf Pasha replaces Achmet Ryoub in command at Resgrad.

A dispatch from Constantinople says that it is rumored that the Porte has intimated its readiness to negotiate a peace on the basis of allowing a self administration in Bulgaria, with the appointment of several Christian Governors.

A dispatch from Bucharest says that the Russians have abandoned the siege of Rustchuk.

A dispatch from Berlin says that the Emperors of Austria and Germany met near Vienna on Wednesday last, and that the conference was very important. The Emperor Wilhelm urged the strictest neutrality on the part of both Austria and Germany.

A dispatch from Vienna says that the formation of the Russian Landwehr has been found to be difficult, owing to a great want of organization.

A dispatch from Bucharest says that the Russian headquarters are now at Obitchuk, on the road from Brela to Rastchuk, and where the concentration of troops is nearly completed for an offensive movement, beginning towards Shumla.

Advices from Russian sources assert that Gen. Gourko's positions in the Balkan passes are secure, and that communication with him is uninterrupted.

A dispatch from Bucharest says that it is rumored that a great battle has been fought near Timova between the united forces of Mohamet Ali and Osman Pasha against the forces under the command of the Grand Duke Nicholas, in which the Russians were defeated with the loss of 15,000 men.

A dispatch from Vienna says that the Bosnian leader, Lepatovich, has been defeated and driven into Dalmatia, where his forces were disbanded.

LONDON, Aug. 7.—Under the head of military intelligence the Times publishes the following:—"The Royal Victoria Victrola Yard at Dapford is still busy repainting the stores which have lately been heavily drawn upon in order to provision the garrisons at Gibraltar and Malta, in each of which there is now accumulated food sufficient for the maintenance of a large army for twelve months."

A Bucharest dispatch to the London Times says there is some want of provisions among the troops between Sistova and Timova on account of the difficulty in procuring wagons to transport supplies beyond the depots along the Roumanian side of the river.

Foreign News.

Dispatches from the City of Mexico to the 31st ultimo are received. They are favorable to the success of the Diaz Government, though a bad feeling is said to prevail among the people of Sonora, and a revolution there is regarded as nearly certain. In the Capital Diaz is said to be using great efforts to win the favor of foreign Powers, particularly that of the United States, being apparently ready "to agree with pleasure to everything" they propose. The tone of the newspapers has greatly changed, and those lately opposed to him are now defending his administration.

A meeting of Home Rule members was held in London yesterday to consider the recent occurrences in Parliament. The proceedings were private, but it is understood a resolution was proposed endorsing the objectives. After three hours of stormy debate the meeting broke up in disorder without passing any resolution.

Ex-President Grant arrived at Varese, yesterday. There was a grand concert and display of fireworks in his honor last night.

The nationalists yesterday held a demonstration in Belfast to celebrate the birth of O'Connell. Disturbances occurred in several parts of the town. Some houses were wrecked and a number of persons wounded. Up to a late hour last night the military, both infantry and cavalry, were patrolling the streets.

LONDON, Aug. 7.—At a conservative demonstration at Hatfield yesterday Lord Salisbury, in a speech, made the following reference to the Government's foreign policy:—"We earnestly deprecated this war. We are the allies and friends of both contending parties. We desire our neutrality not only to be neutrality, but to be peace. But I will ask you to believe that while we are thoroughly convinced that the patriotism of Englishmen, if we need appeal to it, is equal to any emergency, and will shrink before no sacrifice which the interests or honor of the country may demand, we feel in all its intensity that horror of the crimes and calamities of war which this country has always been honorably distinguished for entertaining. Let us earnestly hope, the two objects being as we sincerely believe in no way divergent, that we shall be able to conduct this country through all difficulties without trenching in the faintest degree on its interests or honor, and without losing for a single moment the priceless blessing of peace."

Lord Salisbury also spoke. He said that he trusted when the moment of settlement comes we shall all bear in mind that it is the greatest interest of England that every country in the world should be prosperous, and that if any country runs the risk of being humiliated, we should try to prevent the humiliation, whether it should be the assailant or the assailed, and I hope also, he said, that we shall avoid the fault, which, in my opinion, has been the great fault of the European powers in the past, of interfering on behalf of our co-religionists instead of asking the Turk to secure good government to all the people of his vast empire, whether they be Divres, Yzides, Mahomedans or Christians.

The Greenback Party.

ALBANY, August 7.—A circular was issued yesterday to the State Central Committee and all active men of the State of N.Y. who support the platform of the independent greenback party adopted by the national convention, at Indianapolis, May 1876, notifying them that a meeting of some of the friends of the independent greenback party of the State of New York, will be held in the city of Rochester, Thursday, August 23, 1877, at noon, and inviting them to be present.

### News of the Day.

A special from Monmouth, Ill., says that at an early hour yesterday morning a most terrible double murder and suicide occurred at that place. Howard Reynolds, a contractor and builder, returning home unexpectedly from Springfield, Ill., yesterday morning, discovered his wife and Clark Kirby, a grain dealer, in a room together. Kirby made good his escape, but left a good portion of clothing behind. Reynolds went to the stand drawer and got a revolver, shooting his wife and killing her instantly. The noise of the weapon attracted the attention of a milkman who was in the back part of the house, who, upon hearing the report of the revolver, went into the room where Reynolds was, when the latter turned and fired at him, and, at almost the same time, shot himself through the temple, producing death instantly. When the coroner was summoned yesterday morning all three were found weltering in blood. Reynolds was a wealthy man, and had for some time past entertained suspicions that his wife had been untrue to him.

To New York, yesterday afternoon, Frances Holmes, a widow, residing on Lexington avenue, was assassinated by Thomas Henry Clark with a ball-latchet, and received eight wounds on the head, which are likely to prove fatal. The woman, who had formerly been in the employ of Clark, who kept a shoe store on Sixth avenue, had rejected several offers of marriage from Clark, and he has been lying in wait for her for several days. Clark has thus far escaped arrest.

Charles G. Martin, a broker at No. 234 Broadway, New York, has been adjudged bankrupt on his own petition by Register Allen. He owes \$80,000, and his assets are merely nominal. The principal creditors are John T. Martin, \$30,000; Kate Throckmorton, \$19,221; James B. Martin, \$10,000, and J. J. Beellington, \$6,500.

The finance committee of the Common Council of Meriden, Conn., reported last night that ex City Collector Frank G. Otis is a defaulter in the sum of \$3,555.22. Otis has no bonds, and no property, and the Council instructed the finance committee to institute a criminal prosecution against him for embezzlement.

John W. S. Robertson, alias Captain G. Robertson, who is charged with having six years ago committed forgeries in Iowa to the amount of \$100,000, was arrested at Cowan, Tenn., last night, and will be taken to Dewitt, Iowa, for trial.

In Meriden, Connecticut, yesterday evening, Michael Morrissey in a drunken frozy drew a knife, and made an indiscriminate assault on a crowd in a saloon. He was finally knocked down by Wm. Dorgan and his skull fractured. He died.

The "House Block," in Chicago, built by Lieut. Fred. Grant's father-in-law, has just been sold at auction to foreclose a mortgage. It brought \$493,585, and was bid in by the mortgagees. The price was \$62,000 less than the mortgage.

Bids were opened in Baltimore yesterday for the \$5,000,000 five percent city water loan. There were sixty three bids amounting to \$4,200,000, from par to 103, all of which were awarded. Among the largest bidders were several New York banking firms.

Three young white men, named Farmer, Kilpatrick and Stoney, were murdered on Saturday at Pickensville, Ala., by John Cotton and several other colored men. Excitement prevails, and further trouble is apprehended.

St. Francis Hospital, at St. Louis, Mo., in charge of Sisters of the Franciscan Order, was destroyed by fire yesterday. All the patients were safely removed. Loss \$40,000; insured for \$17,000.

It is supposed that the famous chiefs Red Cloud and Spotted Tail will be members of the delegations who are to be sent to Washington by Gen. Crook.

A fire at Murrefreesboro', N. C., Sunday night, destroyed the main building of Wesleyan Female College. Loss, \$75,000; insurance, \$30,000. No lives lost.

C. & O. CANAL.—The Baltimore Sun says: "Advices from the coal company officials say that negotiations are in progress with the boatmen at Cumberland, and that propositions made by the companies will result in the opening of the canal for business this week, or as soon as the miners go to work."

"Mr. Gorman proceeded to Annapolis to confer with Mr. Willison, collector of the port at Cumberland, who was requested by the boatmen to represent their views. It is expected that a satisfactory adjustment of the boatmen's difficulties will be the result, which will happily remove any further need for military interference. A number of the boatmen are anxious to return home to Cumberland. A vote of fourteen boats was taken Saturday as to whether they should go to Cumberland, resulting in nine for going, two against, and three blanks. A similar vote was to have been taken yesterday at Sir John's Run, with prospects that many of the boatmen will return home."

The Sheriff of Washington county and the State's attorney for that county were at the location of the blockade on Friday and Saturday and traversed several miles of the canal. The boatmen received the sheriff cheerily, and he went away satisfied that there was no present indication of riot or disturbance. He found them quiet, orderly and sober."

[But still blocking the canal!]

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOLS, ALEXANDRIA, VA. Aug. 8, 1877.

To the editor of the Alexandria Gazette:

The accidental omission of part of the manuscript in sending you the synopsis of my annual report yesterday has caused the account of receipts and expenditures to become strangely mixed. The paragraphs should read thus:

"RECEIPTS."

"From State funds, \$2,890.55; from city, \$7,200; from other sources, \$805 (including \$500 from Peabody fund); balance from last year, \$2,616.45. Total, \$13,512."

"EXPENDITURES."

"For salaries of teachers, \$7,845; for real estate, buildings and furniture, \$2,646.45 (turned over to sinking fund of Peabody building); for fuel, salaries of janitors, repairs, insurance, books and all other contingent expenses, \$2,628.81; for pay of clerk and treasurer, \$324.27; total, \$13,249.93; balance, \$192.47."

Yours truly,

RICHARD L. CARNE,  
City Superintendent Public Schools.

FOREST FIRES.—Terrible forest fires are prevailing in portions of Wisconsin. The whole township of Eaton, near Green Bay has been swept by the flames, and the village of Eaton entirely destroyed.

It is reported very circumstantially that two entire families were destroyed by the fire, and three others are missing.

There was a settlement of seventeen houses in what is known as Benjamin's, and there is not one of them left. Every one was consumed. Not a fence in the entire township is left.

All the cattle, thus freed from their confines, are roaming across the fields with terror, and sure of destruction if they seek shelter in the woods near at hand, and which are still burning.

In every direction hundreds of dead animals, such as cows, pigs and sheep lie scattered, adding greatly to the horrors of the desolate scene.

### "The Priest in Absolution."

A meeting convened by the Holborn branch of the English Church Union was held last evening in the St. Alban's school room, Baldwin's Gardens, under the Presidency of Rev. A. H. Mackenzie, to discuss the book known as "The Priest in Absolution." The Chairman explained that two resolutions would be submitted bearing upon circumstances which had occurred lately with regard to the book in question and to the Society of the Holy Cross. The attack made upon the book could hardly be supposed to arise from any great zeal for the purity of public morals, as for an intention, either known or unknown to those who commenced the agitation, of attacking the Society of the Holy Cross. The Society was an association of priests for the deepening of their own spiritual life, and in order to aid one another in their work such subjects as that of the way of getting souls would very often come before them. It was found that young priests experienced great difficulty in gaining instruction as to that part of their duty, notwithstanding one or two old books on the subject, which touched rather on abstract principles, and it was suggested that some book should be prepared for the purpose. The Society was responsible for meeting the idea, and it had been responsible during the last two years for publishing the book in order not to extend, but to limit its circulation. The Chairman having quoted some portion of the book to dispute the charges which had been brought against it, argued that physicians had to deal with works which the world called indecent, but it would not be thought that a medical student was discharging his duty from acquiescing in his self with facts appertaining to his profession. He thought they would agree with him that the Society of the Holy Cross was not one which would be likely to issue an immoral or indecent book. Col. Childers did not think this was a time for them to be dependent for their help arrived at a point on which they were impregnable. Referring to the recent meeting at Exeter Hall, he said it made one quite indignant to think that persons who knew nothing about what they were speaking should dare to question the purity of those who taught and practiced confession. If they were to question a man privately on this subject he would admit that he had no ground to stand upon but ordinary report. Mr. J. A. Heaton argued that the first remedy was to take from the Bishops the privilege of sitting in the House of Lords, because that would teach them they were not first of all peers and then ministers of God, but that their political power as ministers of God came from their being such, and their proper exercise of it. It would remove from them the great temptation to throw themselves into the life of those around them, and thus become political representatives of the Established Church of England in the House of Lords. Mr. C. Childers further remarks on the same subject by Mr. H. C. Richards and Dr. Corwell, resolutions approving of the first action taken by the Society of the Holy Cross in refusing, in spite of the strong pressure put upon them, to republish the book called "The Priest in Absolution," and regretting that the Bishops should have allowed the subject of confession to be brought before the House of Lords without previous consultation with their clergy, were adopted.

London News.

Collector Lee's Defalcation.

The following letter from Judge Hughes substantiates Mr. Moore's opinion of a Virginia carpet bagger as published yesterday:

U. S. COURT ROOMS,  
ALEXANDRIA, VA., July 16, 1877.

GEO. McCORMICK:

Dear Sir:—It would, in my judgment, be highly injudicious to remove Mr. W. B. Moore as special agent of the Treasury at this time. It is not for me to say more than that he has not been engaged in an intricate investigation into the transactions of the late collector of customs at Norfolk, and for some time past has been in strict confidence, official, and confidential with the two agents Ayer and Chamberlain. I saw Mr. Moore until the first day of the present month. I had induced the collector at Norfolk to solicit from the Secretary of the Treasury the sending of a first class agent there to examine that office, for it had become apparent that the affairs were very wrong. In response to the request of Collector Braxton, Mr. Moore was sent there. The result of what he has so far done has been to unearth an embezzlement of \$12,000 to \$15,000 which had escaped both Ayer and Chamberlain. He is a stranger to me, and I do not desire to interfere in matters of removals and appointments, but I write this note to you through you to the President that just now Mr. Moore's services cannot well be spared. Yours truly and respectfully,

W. B. HUGHES,  
United States District Judge.

A SWIMMING MATCH.—The swimming for the championship of America and a purse of \$250 attracted a large throng at Bath Park, near Ocean Island, N. Y., yesterday. The contestants were Thomas Coyle